Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, America's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, gardens, and other landmark areas throughout the nation that individually and collectively represent irreplaceable national resources; and,

Whereas, Public lands provide locally accessible natural and cultural resources for environmental learning, wildlife appreciation, and recreation; and,

Whereas, Public lands promote civic ideals that include shared stewardship and recognition of public ownership; and,

Whereas, Shared stewardship requires the goodwill, cooperation, and active support of citizens, community, city and state officials, business leaders, children, and adults; and,

Whereas, The Civilian Conservation Corps (1933-1944) gave our nation a magnificent legacy of stewardship of our treasured natural resources that is being passed on to younger generations; and,

Whereas, Land conservation builds awareness among urban dwellers with concerns about planned development, shared land use, preservation of wild areas and natural habitats, and the benefits realized by diligent restoration and enhancement efforts; and,

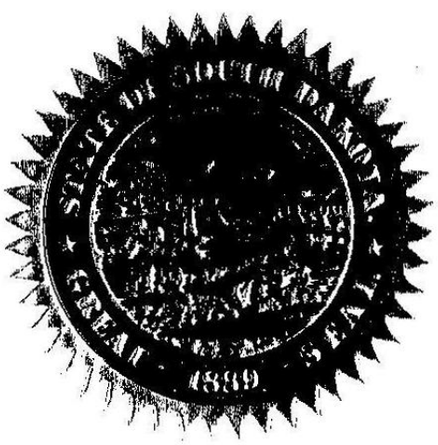
Whereas, An alliance between private citizens, land managers, and community leaders improves the condition of publicly held lands for the greater enjoyment and enrichment of all Americans; and,

Whereas, National Public Lands Day, is co-sponsored by the National Environmental Education Foundation, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Department of Defense, the National Park Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the USDA Forest Service, and has become an annually anticipated event for local participation on publicly held lands in South Dakota:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 26, 2009, as

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fourth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State